

1. A household article exhibiting enhanced resistance to staining, said household article comprising:

a nucleated propylene/ethylene impact copolymer having an ethylene content of up to about 15 percent by weight, and a xylene solubles fraction having an intrinsic viscosity of at least 3 dL/g;

wherein said xylene soluble fraction has a molecular weight ($M_w/1000$) of at least about 350;

said propylene/ethylene copolymer containing an additive package consisting essentially of: a phenolic antioxidant, a phosphite, and an acid scavenger;

said household article being essentially free of sodium containing additives.

2. The household article according to claim 1, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer is nucleated with talc.

3. The household article according to claim 1, wherein said acid scavenger is selected from the group consisting of: hydrotalcite like materials and calcium stearate.

4. The household article according to claim 1, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer further contains a thiosynergist.

5. The household article according to claim 4, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer contains the following amounts of each additive by weight based on said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer:

from about 1000 to about 3000 ppm of a nucleating agent;

from about 500 to about 1000 ppm of said phenolic antioxidant;
from about 500 to about 800 ppm of said phosphite;
up to 5000 ppm of said thiosynergist; and
from about 200 to about 500 ppm of said acid scavenger.

6. The household article according to claim 4, wherein said household article is a component for a household appliance.

7. A method for producing a household article displaying improved stain resistance characteristics, said method comprising:

providing a nucleated propylene/ethylene impact copolymer having an ethylene content of up to 15 percent by weight, and a xylene solubles fraction having an intrinsic viscosity of at least 3 dL/g;

wherein said xylene soluble fraction has an Mw/1000 of at least about 350;

adding an additive package to said propylene/ethylene copolymer, said additive package consisting essentially of a phenolic antioxidant, a phosphite, and an acid scavenger, said phenolic antioxidant, phosphite, and acid scavenger being essentially free of sodium;

wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer is nucleated with a nucleating agent that is essentially free of sodium;

forming said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer into a household article.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer is nucleated with talc.

9. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of adding a thiosynergist to said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer.
10. The method according to claim 9, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer contains the following amounts of each additive by weight based on said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer:
- from about 1000 to about 3000 ppm of a nucleating agent;
 - from about 500 to about 1000 ppm of said phenolic antioxidant;
 - from about 500 to about 800 ppm of said phosphite;
 - up to 5000 ppm of said thiosynergist; and
 - from about 200 to about 500 ppm of said acid scavenger.
11. The method according to claim 9, wherein said household article is a component for a household appliance.
12. A household article exhibiting enhanced stain resistance, said household article comprising:
- a propylene homopolymer having a crystallinity of at least about 55 percent,
 - said propylene polymer containing an additive package consisting essentially of: a phenolic antioxidant, a phosphite, and an acid scavenger;
 - said household article being essentially free of sodium containing additives.
13. The household article according to claim 12, wherein said acid scavenger is selected from the group consisting of: hydrotalcite like materials and calcium stearate.

14. The molded household article according to claim 12, wherein said propylene homopolymer further contains a thiosynergist.

15. The molded household article according to claim 14, wherein said propylene homopolymer contains the following amounts of each additive by weight based on said propylene homopolymer:

from about 500 to about 1000 ppm of said phenolic antioxidant;

from about 500 to about 800 ppm of said phosphite;

up to 5000 ppm of said thiosynergist; and

from about 200 to about 500 ppm of said acid scavenger.

16. The household article according to claim 14, wherein said household article is a component for a household appliance.

17. A composition for producing household articles exhibiting enhanced resistance to staining, said composition comprising:

a nucleated propylene/ethylene impact copolymer having an ethylene content of up to about 15 percent by weight, and a xylene solubles fraction having an intrinsic viscosity of at least 3 dL/g;

wherein said xylene soluble fraction has a molecular weight ($M_w/1000$) of at least about 350;

said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer containing an additive package consisting essentially of: a phenolic antioxidant, a phosphite, and an acid scavenger;
said composition being essentially free of sodium containing additives.

18. The composition according to claim 17, wherein said acid scavenger is selected from the group consisting of: hydrotalcite like materials and calcium stearate.

19. The composition according to claim 17, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer further contains a thiosynergist.

20. The composition according to claim 19, wherein said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer contains the following amounts of each additive by weight based on said propylene/ethylene impact copolymer:

from about 1000 to about 3000 ppm of a nucleating agent;

from about 500 to about 1000 ppm of said phenolic antioxidant;

from about 500 to about 800 ppm of said phosphite;

up to 5000 ppm of said thiosynergist; and

from about 200 to about 500 ppm of said acid scavenger.

21. A composition for producing household articles exhibiting enhanced resistance to staining, said composition comprising:

a propylene homopolymer having a crystallinity of at least about 55 percent,

said propylene polymer containing an additive package consisting essentially of: a phenolic antioxidant, a phosphite, and an acid scavenger;

said composition being essentially free of sodium containing additives.

22. The composition according to claim 21, wherein said acid scavenger is selected from the group consisting of: hydrotalcite like materials and calcium stearate.

23. The composition according to claim 21, wherein said propylene homopolymer further contains a thiosynergist.

24. The composition according to claim 23, wherein said propylene homopolymer contains the following amounts of each additive by weight based on said propylene homopolymer:

from about 500 to about 1000 ppm of said phenolic antioxidant;

from about 500 to about 800 ppm of said phosphite;

up to 5000 ppm of said thiosynergist; and

from about 200 to about 500 ppm of said acid scavenger.